

Vice Commander of the Department of the New York American Legion, remaining in this office until his retirement from the Legion in 1996.

Aside from his work with the local American Legion post, Mr. Jenkins was an extremely well-liked leader in his Harlem neighborhood. He was the founder of the Jackie Robinson Senior Citizen Center's Chorale Group and active in numerous community and religious organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the laudable accomplishments and community activities of Christopher Jenkins. A proud, loyal, and dedicated leader, Mr. Jenkins' gracious and friendly personality, his involvement in the American Legion, and his leadership in the Harlem community, will be sorely missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2000

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 29, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and I was unable to vote on three rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall 574—Approval of the Journal—"yes"; rollcall 575—One Day Continuing Resolution—"yes"; and rollcall 576—Pallone Motion to Instruct Labor-HHS Appropriations Conferees—"yes."

On Monday, October 30, I was unavoidably detained and I was unable to vote on the seven rollcall votes taken. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall 583—Technical Corrections to Minimum Wage Legislation/St. Croix Island—"yes"; rollcall 582—Previous Question—"no"; rollcall 581—Rule to Allow Additional Continuing Resolutions—"yes"; rollcall 580—Previous Question—"no"; rollcall 579—Hour of Meeting October 31 at 6:00 p.m.—"no"; rollcall 578—Passage One Day Continuing Resolution—"yes"; and rollcall 577—Approval of the Journal—"yes."

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CUBAN-AMERICAN WOMEN

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the National Association of Cuban-American Women (NACAW) for promoting excellence and achievement for minority women.

NACAW's philosophy and focus has helped create the support that is essential for building a strong community. With an understanding that the individual is the building block for the success of every community, NACAW has provided excellent support and guidance for Cuban-American women, and for the community as a whole.

In pursuit of its goals, NACAW has developed a comprehensive agenda:

to work with other women's organizations to develop a strong national platform in response to common concerns;

to serve as a forum for Cuban-American women and other minority women to ensure their participation and representation in national organizations;

to increase awareness of education and career opportunities for Cuban-American women and other minority women;

to promote participation of Cuban-American women in Hispanic community service activities;

and to accurately portray the characteristics, values, and concerns of Cuban-American women.

Since its founding, NACAW has sponsored a variety of important programs:

NACAW's Educational Opportunities Center disseminates information about post-secondary programs, scholarships, and financial aid sources.

NACAW sponsors an annual awards ceremony that honors outstanding Cuban-American leaders, as well as leaders outside of the community, who have contributed to the advancement of Hispanics.

In order to maintain the tradition of "Dia de los Reyes Magos" ("Feast of the Epiphany"), NACAW has sponsored a number of toy-collection campaigns for disadvantaged children.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the National Association of Cuban-American Women for their contributions to the Cuban-American community and to the lives of minority women.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2000

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, on October 30, 2000 I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall votes Nos. 580–583. For the record, I would have voted "aye" on the rollcall Nos. 580, 581, and 583.

For the record, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 582, the Rule on S. 2485.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2000

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, on October 28 through October 30, 2000, I was in North Carolina and was unavoidably absent for rollcall votes 570 through 581. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on rollcall votes 570 through 578, "no" on rollcall vote 579, and "yes" on rollcall votes 580 and 581.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2000

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber on Tues-

day, October 24, 2000 when rollcall vote No. 543 was cast and on Wednesday, October 25, 2000 when rollcall vote No. 551 was cast. I want the record to show that had I been present in this chamber at the time these votes were cast, I would have voted "no" on each of these rollcall votes.

REAL CULPRIT IN AIR INDIA BOMBING IS INDIAN GOVERNMENT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, we are all pleased that the Canadian government has maintained an active investigation of the Air India bombing in 1985 that killed 329 people. Terrorism is always unacceptable, and all decent people condemn it.

Thus, I read with interest this past weekend that Canada had arrested two Sikhs, Ripudaman Singh Malik and Ajaib Singh Bagri, for this bombing. Unfortunately, I believe that these two individuals are being scapegoated. The book *Soft Target*, written by journalists Brian McAndrew of the *Toronto Star* and Zuhair Kashmeri of the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, shows that the Indian government itself carried out this atrocity.

According to McAndrew and Kashmeri, the Indian Consul General in Toronto, Mr. Surinder Malik, pulled his wife and daughter off the flight shortly before it took off. A friend of the Consul General who was a car dealer in Toronto also cancelled his reservation. An Indian government official named Siddhartha Singh was also scheduled on the doomed flight and cancelled. Surinder Malik called the Canadian authorities about the crime before it was reported publicly that it had occurred to try to point them to a Sikh he claimed was on the passenger list. The pilot of the flight was a Sikh.

It looks like the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who made the two arrests this weekend, were not open to the evidence that the Indian government was responsible, even though Canada's other investigate agency, the Canadian State Investigative Service, tried to warn them. *Soft Target* quotes a CSIS agent as saying, "If you really want to clear the incident quickly, take vans down to the Indian High Commission and the consulates in Toronto and Vancouver, load up everybody and take them down for questioning. We know it and they knew it that they are involved."

Clearly, the objective was to damage the Sikh freedom movement and raise the spectre of "Sikh terrorism" to justify another of India's campaigns of violence against the Sikhs.

Mr. Speaker, this is unfortunately not the only case of Indian state terrorism. The repression of Christians, which has taken the form of burning churches, murdering priests, raping nuns, burning a missionary and his two young sons to death, and other atrocities, is well known. In November 1994, the Indian newspaper *The Hitavada* reported that the late Governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, was paid over \$1.5 billion by the Indian government to foment state terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir.